The author thinks that from these experiments and observations he may draw the following conclusions:—

"1. The bromide of potassium is rapidly absorbed.

"2. Though it appears quickly in the urine, it is, upon the whole, not very rapidly eliminated.

"3. It is eliminated unchanged by the kidneys, the skin, and, perhaps, by the intestines.

"4. It is sometimes decomposed in the system and free bromine eliminated by the breath.

"5. While passing into the system it acts as a local irritant on the surfaces through which it passes.

"6. While in the system it acts as a vascular and nervous sedative.

"7. While passing out of the system its primary effect is to diminish all the secretions, except perhaps the urine, but secondarily hypersecretion may be induced."

Acupressure of Arteries.—Dr. HUTCHINSON presented to the New York Pathological Society the carotid artery of a dog, that had been closed in its continuity by acupressure. The pressure was discontinued at the end of twenty-four hours, and the artery itself removed twenty-four days after the operation. A quarter of an inch above and below the constriction the vessel was obliterated and converted into a fibrous cord, as proved by microscopical examination by Dr. Stiles, of Brooklyn.

He remarked in that connection that during the last twelve months he had acupressed fifty arteries: one in a case of amputation at the knee-joint; two in amputation of the leg; two of forearm; one of the arm; one of the foot; and in several smaller operations. In all these cases the union was more rapid than when the ligature was applied, and there was never any secondary hemorrhage. The needles were removed from the radial and ulnar in twenty-two hours, from the popliteal in forty-eight hours, while in some smaller vessels thirteen hours sufficed.—*Med. Record*, Dec. 1, 1868.

Treatment of Organic Infantile Paralysis by the Continuous Galvanic Current.—Dr. WM. A. HAMMOND states (*Quarterly Journ. Psychological Med.*, July, 1868) that some time since he gave his views relative to the pathology and treatment of a very persistent form of infantile paralysis, and that he is now in a position to speak more authoritatively on the subject. He then insisted upon the employment of the direct galvanic current as indispensable in those instances where the muscles would not contract to the stimulus of the induced current, and referred to several cases in which its efficacy had been clearly established. Since that time he has had many opportunities of testing the advantages of this therapeutic agent; and has moreover been using a battery far more efficacious and convenient than any that has come under his notice. This battery is the one invented and manufactured by Dr. Emil Stöhrer, of Dresden. "The advantages of this battery," he says, "are inestimable. When not in use there is no destruction of zinc, or deterioration of acids. The current is regular and constant, and with a daily use of from four to six hours, for three months, I have not had to renew the acids, cleanse the carbon cylinders, nor amalgamate those of zinc. The whole arrangement is fully described in Ziemper's *Electricität in der Medicin.* Zweite auflage. Berlin, 1864, p. 81; to which work the reader is referred for a fuller account of this admirable apparatus."

Dr. H. says: "It would be tedious to describe at length all the cases of infantile paralysis which I have treated with the direct galvanic current. If a contraction can be induced by it, recovery is merely a matter of time, but if no action of the paralyzed muscles can be brought about, the prognosis must be unfavourable. But even here there is hope, for in a recent case sent to me by my friend, Professor W. H. Van Buren, M. D., where, after the application of the current from Stöhrer's machine, no contraction could be caused in a paralyzed tibialis anticus muscle, I succeeded a few days afterward in producing very decided action by the same means.

"In only three cases which have come under my notice was the disease so far advanced as to be in my opinion incurable. In fifteen no contraction of the paralyzed muscles could be effected by the strongest induced currents, while the direct current of feeble intensity caused strong contractions. As remarked by Dr. Radcliffe in the memoir already quoted, there appears to be no limit to the prospect of recovery if the electric contractility of the muscles is not utterly destroyed. But in most cases a long time is required to effect a cure, and even when the muscles are entirely restored, they must be re-educated to the performance of their functions. Few parents comparatively have the patience to wait and to devote the necessary time to doing their part of the work. Unless there is reasonable assurance in regard to these points, it is better not to undertake the case. It is not, except in recent cases, a matter of days, or of weeks, but of months, and sometimes of years."

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Snare for removing Foreign Bodies from the Urethra.—Dr. J. T. Hodgen, Professor of Anatomy in St. Louis Medical College, describes (*St. Louis Med. Journ.*, Nov. 10, 1868) a very ingenious instrument for this purpose. He was called to a child suffering from retention of urine, and passing a catheter about two inches into the urethra it came in contact with a calculus. Not being provided with the usual instruments for removing such an obstruction, it occurred to him that by bending the wire found in his silver cathether (used to clear the instrument) he could form a loop that would readily pass the stone and encircle it, and that the stone might be withdrawn as corks are removed from bottles. He immediately put this idea into practice and drew out the calculus. He was subsequently called to a similar case, in which he resorted to the same expedient with like success.

He has since had an instrument made on this principle, with two wires forming a double loop, which will no doubt prove useful.

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Atropia as an Antidote to Opium Poisoning.—Dr. M. S. Buttles relates (*Med. Record*, Aug. 15, 1868) the following case occurring in his practice, which shows the value of belladonna in cases of poisoning by opium:—

"Mrs. W., aged 38, has been troubled with retroversion, perimetritis, and severe endometritis, and has had several severe attacks of pericarditis, which have left extensive adhesions.

"Had severe neuralgic pains all along the left side, for which I had been in the habit of giving her subcutaneous injections of gr. ss morphiæ sulphatis.

"On January 20th last, I gave her one of these hypodermic injections, which gave but slight relief; the next morning I repeated it, injecting exactly ♏ xv. Magendie's solution (equal to gr. ss morphiæ), and remained in the room fifteen or twenty minutes, when she seemed a little easier, and I retired to my office downstairs; but was very soon summoned by the nurse, who stated that Mrs. W. was dying.

"I found her lips purple, the respiration seven per minute, no pulse at the wrist, but one sound at the heart; pupils contracted to a fine point, frothing at the mouth, and the extremities cold.

"I commenced artificial respiration (for while I was cogitating on my handiwork, she entirely stopped breathing), which by myself and assistants was kept up for about half an hour, when I attempted to give her some strong coffee, but she could not be made to swallow. I had sent for several neighbouring physicians, who were all out; but just at this moment my friend, Prof. Chas. A. Budd, providentially called on me, and was immediately shown to the room. He declared that she was dead, and 'laughed in his sleeve' at the idea of keeping up artificial respiration.

"By this time I began to think of sending for an undertaker (for she had come to me from a neighbouring city for treatment), but as a 'drowning man clings to a straw,' so I was eager to give her every possible chance, and asked Dr. Budd to suggest something, at the same time mentioning belladonna, when he said that atropia might be given hypodermically, if I wanted to do something, but as she was dead it would not bring her around. We resolved, however, to try it. By this time artificial respiration had been kept up for an hour and a half. One-sixtieth of a grain of the sulphate of atropia was injected, and in fifteen minutes she showed signs of life, the pupils began very slightly to dilate, and in ten